



VOLUME 2 | ISSUE 17

JUNE 23, 2006



US ARMY

USAG Schinnen Tri-Border News Notes



Schinnen Fire Department to the rescue in case of an emergency



Photo by Henk Saive

The Schinnen Fire Department simulated various search and rescue scenarios during a training exercise at USAG Schinnen in order to become familiar with the garrisons facilities, personnel and practices in case of an emergency situation.

By LaDonna Davis

Two fire trucks, a ladder truck and between 10 and 20 firefighters and fire personnel from the Schinnen Fire Department responded to a simulated fire and rescue training exercise scenario Monday, May 29, at the USAG Schinnen Emma Mine Complex.

Due to the fact that USAG Schinnen does not have its own base fire department, the garrison community must rely on the Schinnen town fire department in the case of a fire related emergency.

By conducting training exercises on the garrison, the Schinnen fire department is able to become familiar with the garrison's facilities, procedures and various rescue scenarios; and because the responding officers are unfamiliar with the emergency scenarios prior to attending the training, they become better prepared for any type of rescue mission they might face.

"In order to make sure our relationship with the fire

department is good, we offered them the opportunity to train at USAG Schinnen," said Rob Walraven, the USAG Schinnen fire chief. "The benefit for Schinnen from these exercises is that if something does happen, the fire department will be familiar with

tively search an emergency vehicle, such as a fire truck, in a timely manner.

"As a part of the training, the fire department needs to know how to work with the American community," said Walraven. "It is also imperative that they familiarize them selves with the facilities so that if something really happens, they'll be better prepared."

This training has become so imperative, in fact, that the Schinnen town fire department and the USAG Schinnen fire chief have agreed to conduct these training scenarios at the Emma Mine Complex quarterly next year.

"We have an excellent relationship with the Schinnen Fire Department and we rely on them for fighting fires," said Walraven. "Part of my job is to serve as a liaison with the host nation fire department in case of an incident. It is good to have training and exercises on base to help us be better prepared."

the circumstances, which can only benefit the response."

Though the training was oriented towards the fire crew, it had an added benefit of giving the Schinnen military police a chance to exercise security procedures in case of an emergency. Those procedures included the type of information needed when making an emergency call, and how to effec-

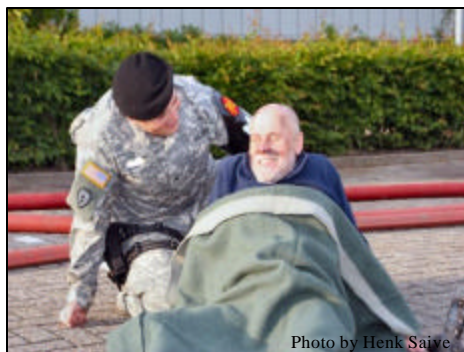


Photo by Henk Saive

A USAG Schinnen military police officer assist in the simulated rescue of an injured civilian during the Schinnen fire department training exercise.

NEWS

Exercising your right to vote while overseas

By USAREUR Public Affairs

The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act covers members of the U.S. uniformed services and U.S. merchant marine, their family members, and other U.S. citizens residing outside the U.S. – in all, more than six million potential voters.

In 2006, voters will elect 33 U.S. senators, 435 U.S. representatives, 37 state governors and hundreds of state and

local officials.

Election season is underway, with primaries that began in March leading up to the general election, Nov. 7.

Whether you are a Soldier, family member, civilian or contractor, exercising your right to vote while living overseas can take as little as 10 minutes.

U.S. citizens can register to vote and request an absentee ballot using the Federal Post

Card Application (SF76), which has been redesigned for 2006 to convey more information to election officials while providing greater security for voters' personal information.

To obtain the SF76 form, contact the Schinnen voting officer at 360-7320. The form is also available electronically on the USAREUR/1PERSCOM website at: <http://www.1perscom.army.mil/default.asp?strLink=C25>.

Motorcycle Safety On-Line registration now available on the USAG Schinnen webpage

By USAG Safety Office

Schinnen webpage for several new garrison motorcycle safety programs. Personnel interested in participating in these programs can register by visiting the USAG Schinnen web site and signing up. All programs are sponsored and managed by the USAG Schinnen Installation Safety Office. To register, just click on the link and provide the requested information.

The following programs offered are:

Motorcycle Safety List Server- Registered List Server members will receive periodic distribution of motorcycle safety related material for personal knowledge, motorcycle training purposes, and receive up to date information on the latest U.S. Army and USAG Schinnen motorcycle safety initiatives as it becomes available.

Motorcycle Mentorship Program- Experienced motorcycle riders interested in becoming Mentors for lesser experienced riders can register in the USAG Schinnen Motorcycle Mentorship Program (MMP). The goal of the MMP is to create a forum that addresses the hazards associated with motorcycle driving and establish monthly meetings where motorcycle riders can meet, share experiences, and discuss motorcycling topics of interest.

Motorcycle Safety Foundation Experienced Rider Course (ERC) training sign-up- Motorcycle riders now have two ways to sign up for required Motorcycle Safety Foundation training. Sign up through our website link or by contacting the USAG Schinnen Driver's Testing Station at DSN 360-7433. Up coming course dates are posted on the Safety web page at <http://www.usagschinnen.eur.army.mil/sites/installation/safety.asp>

For more motorcycle safety program information, contact the Installation Safety Office at DSN 360-7270.

Rapid tools program facility to open

By USAREUR Public Affairs

U.S. Army, Europe's G-4, the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10 a.m., May 1 at USAREUR's new Rapid Tools Program facility, Building 7938, on Germersheim Army Depot. Department of Defense identity card holders are welcome to attend.

Representatives from the Kipper Tool Company, the organization that will run the Rapid Tools Program effective May 1 in USAREUR, will take part in the ceremony. The tool company will also display the vehicles and tools that form the basis of the program.

The Rapid Tools Program is part of Army logistics modernization efforts, and is intended to put industrial-quality tools in the hands of Army maintainers, wherever and whenever they need the tools.

In USAREUR, three tool trucks will travel to units throughout Ger-

many, Italy and the Benelux (Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg), carrying the industrial-quality equivalent of USAREUR's 300 most in-demand tools. The tool company vendors and a tool truck will visit each unit at least twice each month, said Master Sgt. Stennis Bryant, RTP program manager.

The vendor will sell tools to the visited unit using standard Army purchase methods, including purchase orders or the Government Purchase Card, depending on the dollar amount of the purchase.

Unserviceable or broken tools will be replaced on the spot, provided the tools are under warranty. The vendor will also handle special orders not carried on the truck. In addition, if a standard tool is out of stock at the time the vendor visits a unit, Kipper Tool Company will "drop ship" the item within 48 hours, MSG Bryant said.

The Rapid Tools

Program has two main benefits, Bryant said: quality and speed.

"In the long run, the program will help alleviate the burden of continuous replacement of non-industrial quality tools that have no warranty. By utilizing replacement with industrial quality tools in this program, we are investing in the lifetime of the tool's use," Bryant said.

Bryant also described the advantage in speed.

"In the past, if you needed a tool you had to requisition it and it was eventually procured from a 'stateside' vendor. That could take weeks or months. With the Rapid Tools Program's tool trucks, you can replace tools immediately," he said.

For more information on the Rapid Tools Program, call DSN 370-7511.

LEGAL

WORLD CUP FEVER COMES TO THE CONTINENT!!

By Then Netherlands Law Center

The great news is that the World Cup is finally upon us, having kicked off last June 9, when host nation Germany played Costa Rica. Although The Netherlands is not the venue for any of the 64 games that will be played over the next month, the games are happening just across the border from us in 12 nearby Germany cities. Whether by car or train, we have the unique opportunity to cross the border into Germany and to soak up World Cup festivities over the next 30 days. But, a word of caution: **Bring your passport** and allow for extra travel time on your way to the games.

The purpose of this note is to remind our readers that there is a national border between Germany and The Netherlands even though both are member-states in the larger European Union (EU). There may no longer be enforced customs and immigration controls at these crossings, but German and Dutch state officials reserve the right to reimpose controls when certain conditions are present. For Americans stationed in The Netherlands, crossing into Germany is not the legal equivalent of going from New York into Connecticut or from California into Nevada.

The 1985 Schengen Agreement is an agreement among most of the [European](#) states that unites a common immigration policy and a [border](#) system. A total of 26 countries— including all EU states except the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom, but including non- EU members Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland—have signed the agreement. Fifteen countries have implemented the agreement so far. Border control points and vehicle inspections have been, for the most part, removed between Schengen countries. A common 'Schengen visa' allows access between the EU countries. As noted above, the Schengen treaty does allow member countries to reinstate border controls for short periods if state officials consider that option to be in the interest of national security.

EU host nation states have suspended passport-free border crossing before in the recent past. It happened during the 1998 World Cup in France, in Belgium and The Netherlands at the 2000 European Cup and at the 2004 European Cup in Portugal. France also reinstated border controls during the 60th anniversary of D- Day in June 2004. Now Germany has announced that they too will reinstate some border controls as a precaution-

ary measure. To ensure that you arrive timely at your German destination **make sure you take your passport with you!** You may or may not be asked to present the document, but it would be wise to be prepared and avoid the unneeded frustration of being turned away at the border.

German authorities have stated that they believe the games will be safe and enjoyable for the millions of expected spectators, fans and guests and that the suspension of passport-free travel into Germany during the 30 days of the World Cup is a prudent measure to ensure a safe and secure tournament. Their goal is to minimize the risks of serious misconduct and violence potentially posed by soccer hooligans, terrorists and organized-crime gangs. Identifying these potential threats at the earliest possible moment is the best method of ensuring a World Cup tournament free of violence and other disruptions.

Whether you are attending a match or merely going to a German city to be part of the activity, have a wonderful and exciting time. But, **bring along your passport** and be cognizant of your surroundings. Have a great World Cup experience.

LEISURE

Leisure Activities ~ by Rita Hoefnagels

June 23-25: Farm & Country Fair 2006 in Aalten (NL) near Dinxperlo (NL). The fair is the perfect place to get to know modern country live. More then 300 participants from the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany offer all kinds of country products such as clothes, food, art, garden furniture, plants and flowers. Open: June 23-24, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; June 25, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Entry: €10; children €2.50.

Fiësta del Sol, a sunny festival with many dancers, lots of music and music groups, street theater and an exotic market in the center of Eindhoven (NL).

Harbor Days in Maasbracht (NL) with lots of attractions and music.

June 24: Attractive *Garden Market* at historic Castle Hernen near the town of Hernen and Wijchen (NL). The castle and its beautiful gardens will be open for the public as well. Open: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Entry market: €3; entry castle: €1.

June 25: Country Festival in Amstenrade. Location is across the castle. Open: noon-2 a.m.

July 1-2: Castle Fest at the park and Castle de Merode near Westerlo in Belgium. The fest/fair has more then 160 stands, live music, an art section, animal shows (dogs, falcons), the park and castle are open to the public and lots more. Open both days 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Entry: €6. Directions: A13 to Antwerp; exit #23 Geel/Westerlo; then direction Aarschot.

July 2: Year Market in the center of Maasbree (NL). Open: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

July 6-9: Culinary Festival with participation of many renowned restaurants in the center of Leiden (NL). Open: July 6, 5-11 p.m.; July 7, 4 p.m.-midnight; July 8, 2 p.m.-1 a.m.; and July 9, 1-9:30 p.m.

July 9: "Leidse Lakenmarkt" is an attractive and busy market in the center of Leiden

(NL). The large market is divided in an antique market; a flea market, a collectors market and an art market. No entry fees.

Open: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

July 14-16: North Sea Jazz Festival at Ahoy in Rotterdam. More then 1200 artists participate in the world's largest indoor jazz festival. For more information:

www.northseajazz.nl. Entry: €65 per day.

July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 24 and Oct. 29: Antique Market in the center of Valkenburg (NL), located across the VVV (Tourist) Office.

Through Sept. 8: A traditional *Cheese and Old Crafts Market* is held every Friday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Waagplein in the center of Alkmaar (NL).

Through Sept. 13: Every Wednesday visitors will find from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. an *Antique and Flea Market* at the Market Square in the center of Gouda (NL).

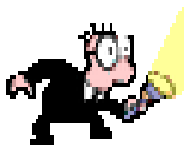
MWR Job Fair



Looking for a job and like working with children?

Then the MWR Job Fair at Recreation Plaza on USAG Schinnen is the place to be Thursday June 29 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. NAF jobs are available immediately with the Child Development Center and Youth Services in Brunssum.

Employment is open to all US ID cardholders. For more information, please call 360-7269 or 046 443-7269.

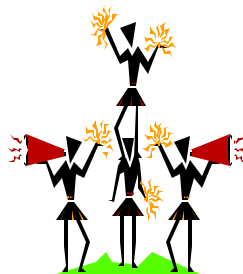


B-Ball and Cheerleading Camp

If you are between the ages of six and 18 and always wanted to be a cheerleader or play basketball, the basketball and cheerleading summer camp is for you!



Those wishing to participate in this summer's basketball and cheerleading program need to register at the Treebeek Education Center CYS Registration Office by July 6. The program is open to all US and NATO ID cardholders.



LEISURE

In conjunction with the
2006 Tri-Border Independence Day Celebration
on Saturday 8 July
The USAG Schinnen Safety Office Presents

Motorcycle Safety Day

Freedom Poker Run

Ride in Honor of Our Fallen.
Win Two Harley Davidson leather jackets.
Sign-ups begin at noon in the Biker Parking area.

Best "Safe" Bike Competition

To win, it has to be more than just pretty. Begins 4:30 p.m. at the Biker Parking.

Plenty of fun with prizes donated by Exchange New Car Sales, Andrews Federal Credit Union and the Schinnen PX.



Slow Race

Put your skills and balance to the test. Slowest times win. Begins 5:30 p.m. at the Biker Parking.

Open to all US/NATO cardholders.



SCHINNEN NOTES

Caution! Toad crossing

By LaDonna Davis

Schinnen department of public works has placed signs along the Schinnen Emma Mine Complex patrol road to caution people of toads crossing.

During the spring months, the toad, Bufo Bufo, wakes up from winter hibernation to breed in the Schinnen pond located in the back of the installation.

During the breeding period, a



single toad can lay up to 7000 eggs. Between the period of May and June, the eggs will hatch and small tadpoles with long tails will emerge from their shell.

Approximately one month later, the tadpoles will mature and lose their tails as well as grow limbs, metamorphosing into a full-grown frog.

Frogs and toads are amphibious creatures, meaning that they live a double life, both in and out of water. The animal uses the water for breeding purposes only.

Once the tadpole transforms into an adult toad, it will move out of the water and live on land.

The toads will stay around the Schinnen pond until October before traveling back to their hibernation area outside the installation.

But, until then, be aware of the frogs crossing around the patrol road, especially during the night and on rainy days.

Smart Card login to increase computer security

By USAREUR Public Affairs

U.S. Army, Europe and Installation Management Agency-Europe Soldiers and civilian employees already use their common access cards as "passports" through the gates of installations where they live and work. Soon, the cards will also provide entry to USAREUR's computer networks.

The Department of Defense began issuing CAC or "smart" cards in 2000, and Soldiers and civilian employees have since used them to digitally sign documents or encrypt e-mail, verify deployment readiness and create travel orders and vouchers. And use of the chip-equipped cards is still expanding: Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 directs all federal government employees to use smart cards when they access official computer networks. DoD has set an implementation date of July 31 for smart card logon; the Army's deadline is June 30.

USAREUR and IMA - EURO information management staff will phase in the login capability in the coming weeks, according to Col. David De Vries, USAREUR assistant deputy chief of staff for information.

De Vries said smart card logon increases computer network security by ensuring two-factor identification. Each user must provide both the smart card and the personal identification number associated with it - as De Vries put it, network access will require "something you have, and something you know."

Smart card logon implementation has already begun across the theater, De Vries said, as systems administrators push software to user's computers, prompting a dialogue box at the next user logon. The dialogue box asks users to associate their smart cards with their logon accounts by entering the PIN stored on the smart card. Once this is done, he said, within 24 hours smart card network access is possible.

Happy Barranco, USAREUR PKI program manager, said while smart card logon is phasing in users can still access the network by entering a user name and password, but she encourages people to adopt the new system.

"The advantage to using the smart card will be that you don't have to change your password every 60 days," she said.

Some USAREUR network users are not eligible for common access cards, Barranco said, including:

- ◆ Local national employees in Italy and Greece
- ◆ Family members
- ◆ Retirees
- ◆ Employees of non-DoD organizations such as the Red Cross and Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts of America
- ◆ Holders of role-based accounts, such as watch officers; and secondary accounts, such as system administrators and reserve military personnel.

When smart card logon implementation is complete, Barranco said, standard Outlook Web mail access will not work until the theater migrates to the new e-mail system some time in 2007. Access can be approved on a case-by-case basis, and those whose duties require it should contact their systems administrator or information management officer, she said.

For more information, contact your Schinnen computer support personnel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Retirees eligible for \$1K referral bonus

Effective June 1, 2006, Army retirees are eligible to provide referrals under the Operation SMART program and receive the \$1K bonus by referring persons that have not previously conducted an appointment with a recruiter. Army retirees include: (1) Active Army retirees, which includes retired officers and enlisted members of the Regular Army; and (2) Army Reserve Component retirees, which includes reserve members receiving retired pay, reserve members who have transferred to the retired reserve after completing the requisite qualifying years credible for retired pay, but who have not yet reached 60 years of age, and retired members of the National Guard. The bonus payments to Army Retirees that participate in this pilot program will not be offset against those members retired/retainer pay.

HELP WANTED:**CYS jobs available**

Do you love the laughter of children? Enjoy fun filled days singing songs and playing games? Do you desire a challenging and rewarding job with opportunities for training and advancement? Join our team of dedicated individuals at USAG Schinnen Child and Youth Services or Child Development Center. Applications are now being accepted. Please call 364-2575 or 360-7269 or 045 526 2575 for more information.

EMT 1st responder course:*space available*

Do you want to learn the skills necessary to work with victims of medical emergencies before the ambulance arrives? Are you thinking of pursuing a career in the medical field or in public safety? Central Texas College is now offering an EMT 1st Responder class to help you advance your career. This 8 week course beings in September and runs through October 2006. Contact the CTC field rep to reserve your spot! DSN 364-6005, or contact the Treebeek education center.